

CAYRATIA JAPONICA (VITACEAE) AND PAEDERIA FOETIDA
(RUBIACEAE) ADVENTIVE IN TEXAS

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ABSTRACT

Cayratia japonica (Thunb.) Gagnepain (Vitaceae) and *Paederia foetida* L. (Rubiaceae) have been found as adventive vines in Houston, Texas. A key is provided to distinguish *P. foetida* from *P. cruddasiana* Prain, the two adventive species in the United States.

KEY WORDS: *Cayratia japonica*, *Paederia foetida*, *Paederia cruddasiana*, *Paederia scandens*, vines, Vitaceae, Rubiaceae, Texas

In 1990 Mr. and Mrs. Herman Greiner invited Dr. John Tveten to their Houston home to view an unknown rampant vine. Tveten brought specimens of the vine to the SBSC herbarium. I identified it as *Cayratia japonica* (Thunb.) Gagnepain (Stewart 1958). Shinnery (1964) reported this Asiatic vine new to North America from St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. MacRoberts (1989) reported it from four additional eastern Louisiana parishes. The present collection is apparently the first in Texas.

The Greiners communicated to Tveten that this vine has been on their property for about 37 years and is climbing into the trees and shrubs and would cover them up if not periodically pulled down. Tveten indicated (pers. comm.) that the flowers are small, salmon colored, and seemed to be falling off rather than setting fruit.

Specimens collected: UNITED STATES. Texas: Harris Co., a rampant vine at 6644 Lindy Lane, SE Houston, 17 Sep 1990, *John Tveten s.n.* (SBSC, duplicates to be distributed to ASTC, SMU, TAES, and TEX).

In the fall of 1989, Lynn Lowrey brought a flowering vine to the herbarium for identification. The flowers were rubiaceous and keyed out to the genus *Paederia* (Stewart 1958). After consulting a number of Asian floristic manuals, I tentatively identified the collection as *P. scandens* (Lour.) Merrill. To confirm

my identification, I borrowed some sheets from US, MO, and USF. Christian Puff discovered my loan from MO in *Herbarium News* and informed me of his 1991 revision of the genus in which the names *P. scandens* and *P. foetida* refer to the same species.

The following key, derived from the Puff revision, will serve to distinguish the two adventive species in the United States.

1. Fruits 6-11 mm wide, elliptic to broadly ovate, laterally compressed; pyrenes winged, separating from a filiform carpophore. *P. cruddasiana*
1. Fruits 4-6 mm wide, globose, not compressed; pyrenes not winged, carpophore absent. *P. foetida*

Paederia cruddasiana Prain ssp. *cruddasiana* is adventive in Dade Co., Florida and is apparently the species illustrated on page 1261 in Small's 1933 *Man. SE Flora*. *Paederia foetida* L. is adventive in Pasco, Hernando, and Volusia cos., Florida; Iberia Parish, Louisiana; and Harris Co., Texas.

Specimens collected: UNITED STATES. Texas: Harris Co., adventive vine climbing into trees at the end of Sage Rd. where it dead ends at Buffalo Bayou, N of Woodway Street, Houston, 8 Oct 1989, *Lowrey s.n.* and 14 Oct 1989, *Brown 14219* (SBSC, duplicates to be distributed to ASTC, SMU, TAES, and TEX).

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